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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

RESTRICTED

DATE: March 17, 1949

SUBJECT:

Press report from Helsinki.

PARTICIPANTS:

Mr. Olavi Munkki, First Secretary, Finnish Legation
Mr. Caspar D. Green, NOE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
DATE 3/20/81
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Mr. Munkki came to my office this afternoon to say that they had queried Helsinki about the case of AP correspondent Svensson (see attached file). The Legation has learned that the AP, along with Svensson's story, circulated to its editors for their information, but not for publication, the statement that the "high Finnish official" cited was Prime Minister Fagerholm. This was not printed anywhere, so far as they know. However, at the Secretary's press conference on March 9, 1949, one of the correspondents asked about the report, stating that "according to AP reports Fagerholm had said," etc.

The Foreign Office has informed the Legation here that Fagerholm had no interview with Svensson, and instructed the Legation to give the Department of State that information.

Mr. Munkki stressed that the intention was to inform the Department of the facts, to keep the official record straight.

Attachments:

1. Press clipping.
2. A-67, March 4 from Helsinki.

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